



PATE 2026-4276U

JAN 3 0 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

M. Yanagi et al.

Group Art Unit: 1636

Serial No.

09/662,454

Examiner: Leffers Jr., G.G.

Filed

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September 14, 2000

For

Cloned Genomes of Infectious Hepatitis C Viruses and Uses

Therefor

Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Response to Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. §121

Sir:

Applicants are responding herein to the restriction requirement dated

December 20, 2001. This response is timely filed.

In the office action of December 20, 2001, the Examiner divided the claims into the following three groups under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 42-45, 48, 51-57, drawn to nucleic acid compositions (e.g. SEQ ID NOS: 3-4) and methods of treatment/immunization, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1; class 424, subclass 93.1;
- II. Claims 42-43, 46-48, 51-57, drawn to nucleic acid compositions (e.g. SEQ ID NOS: 1-2), classified in class 536, subclass 23.1, class 424, subclass 93.1; and